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WORKING PAPER

Approved For Release 2001/08/07 : CIA-RDP78B04747A001600050001-9

28 January 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Branch, P&DS

SUBJECT: Background of the Terrestrial-Orbital Photographic Study

1. The concept for a program of this type was first conceived in the TSB/TID. This branch was called upon to evaluate various types of photography on an continuing basis with no standards upon which to base their conclusions other than purely subjective analysis. The TAB was involved in mensuration, and frequently, the measurements made were not compatible with existing information on the imagery. This also contributed to the idea that a means of obtaining accurate evaluations and meaningful measurements was necessary.

2. The accumulation of data for the TOPS program started in June 1963 with a draft of the design objectives. These were altered somewhat thereafter when discussions were held with [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

The

final design objectives were drafted in March 1964. [REDACTED]

25X1A

During the pursuit of ideas and studies to back up this program,

25X1A

[REDACTED] suggested that I check with [REDACTED] to see what

25X1A

connection there would be between <sup>the PL PERFORMANCE STUDIES (PROTON)</sup> ~~this study~~ and the TOPS program. It

25X1A

was decided <sup>during a discussion with [REDACTED]</sup> that one program would be a valuable supplement to the

25X1A

other, and [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was project monitor in

25X1A

P&DS. <sup>A series of</sup> ~~Other~~ meetings were held between the three of us, and at that time

25X1A

a proposed target area was discussed. it was <sup>offered</sup> ~~stated by~~ [REDACTED] that

25X1A

~~she had~~ a list of targets which <sup>had been compiled as important areas of interest</sup> ~~would be required for~~ their program.

(Photography for some of the targets had been obtained but others were still required. <sup>unavailable.</sup> 3)

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It was then agreed that an updated target listing would be made.

25X1A 3. Approximately two trips were made to the [REDACTED] four  
25X1A meetings with [REDACTED] and approximately two meetings were held with  
25X1A [REDACTED] *were held for the purpose of obtaining*  
25X1A [REDACTED] *to obtain background information on the* [REDACTED]

25X1A *mentioned*  
and the CORN program. It was concluded by all that the [REDACTED]  
25X1A could easily support this program when it became active. A meeting was  
25X1A then arranged for 19 August to be attended by [REDACTED]

25X1A [REDACTED]  
25X1A [REDACTED]  
25X1A [REDACTED] The discussion which followed involved the objec-  
tives and resulting information that could be ~~derived~~ *derived* from the program.

25X1A [REDACTED] stated that the [REDACTED] was investigating the  
25X1A effect of atmosphere on aerial photography with meteorological instru-  
mentation which showed promise. He asked if the TOPS program included  
25X1A this and it was stated that it did not. [REDACTED] *wanted to keep the*  
program as uncomplicated as possible *and that point was agreed upon;*  
*which was agreeable to [REDACTED]* how-

25X1A ever, it was concluded that we would hold the TOPS program in obedience  
25X1A until information was forthcoming from the [REDACTED] program. When the  
25X1A meeting concluded, [REDACTED] requested a copy of the target areas and  
25X1A also stated that [REDACTED] would need a copy for COMOR consideration.

25X1A It was requested that [REDACTED] *approximately one week in advance*  
25X1A that [REDACTED] *could* notify us of any target coverage (so  
25X1A that [REDACTED] *was interested in* program would be operating in the same area at the same  
25X1A time). [REDACTED] agreed and the meeting was adjourned.

25X1A 4. In conclusion, the TOPS meeting was held to discuss this program  
and also to include cooperation and coordination with two other studies  
already underway. These programs are:

25X1A It was emphasized to [REDACTED] that there was no priority on these targets *and*  
*the request was on a "catch-as-catch-can" basis.* *When an engineering pass was scheduled near*  
*that where and when possible we would and coverage was possible*  
*one of the targets was located we would like coverage of the targets.*


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25X1A

a) "Photographic Interpretation<sup>er</sup> / ~~Study~~ *Performance*" monitored by 

25X1A

b) "Medium Altitude Special Sensor" Program monitored by 

25X1A



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